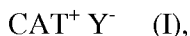


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A cationic dye of formula I



wherein

CAT⁺ is a cation of a polymethine dye, and ~~selected from azine, xanthene, poly-~~
~~methine, styryl, azo, tetrazolium, pyrylium, benzopyrylium, thiopyrylium,~~
~~benzothiopyrylium, thiazine, oxazine, triarylmethane, diarylmethane, acridine,~~
~~quinoline, isoquinoline, and quaternized azafluorenone dyes,~~

Y⁻ is an anion according ~~selected from CAB⁻ and FAP⁻;~~

CAB⁻ conforms to formula (II-1)

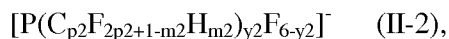


y1 — is 1, 2, 3 or 4,

x1 — is 0, 1, 2 or 3,

R⁰ — is alkyl, aryl, fluorinated alkyl, fluorinated aryl, cycloalkyl or alkylaryl, with
the condition that R⁰ may be hydrogen if y1 is >2, and

FAP⁻ conforms to formula (II-2)



p2 — is 1 to 20,

m2 is 0, 1, 2 or 3,

y2 — is 1, 2, 3 or 4 [[,]].

2. (Cancelled):

3. (Cancelled):

4. (Cancelled):
5. (Cancelled):
6. (Cancelled):
7. (Cancelled):
8. (Cancelled):
9. (Cancelled):
10. (Cancelled):
11. (Cancelled):
12. (Cancelled):
13. (Cancelled):
14. (Cancelled):
15. (Cancelled):
16. (Cancelled):
17. (Cancelled):
18. (Cancelled):
19. (Cancelled):

20. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein CAT^+ is a cation of a cyanine dye.

21. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein CAT^+ is a cation of a carbocyanine dye.

22. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein CAT^+ is a cation of an azacarbocyanine dye.

23. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein CAT^+ is a cation of a diazacarbocyanine dye.

24. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein CAT^+ is a cation of a triazacarbocyanine dye.

25. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein CAT^+ is a cation of a hemicyanine dye.

26. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 [[4]], wherein ~~at~~ CAT^+ is a cation of a diazahemicyanine dye.

27. (Cancelled):

28. (Cancelled):

29. (Cancelled):

30. (Cancelled):

31. (Cancelled):

32. (Cancelled):
33. (Cancelled):
34. (Cancelled):
35. (Cancelled):
36. (Cancelled):
37. (Cancelled):
38. (Cancelled):
39. (Cancelled):
40. (Cancelled):
41. (Cancelled):
42. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 ~~28~~, wherein p2 is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8.
43. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 ~~28~~, wherein p2 is 2, 3 or 4.
44. (Currently Amended): A dye according to Claim 1 ~~28~~, wherein Y⁻ is ⁻PF₃(C₂F₅)₃, ⁻PF₃(C₄F₉)₃, ⁻PF₃(C₃F₇)₃ or ⁻PF₄(C₂F₅)₂.